

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 401301/A.BRAUN

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12/31/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HUBER et al.

Application No. Unassigned

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS

Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks. Pages showing the requested changes are attached. The amendments indicated herein apply to the English translation of the specification and claims present at the conclusion of the international phase of the PCT application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 2, insert:

This is the national phase of PCT/IB99/00180, filed January 29, 1999, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1 with:

WO-A-97/23199 attempted on the other hand to achieve advantageous release characteristics for 5-aminosalicylic acid by choosing certain excipients in combination with an optimal geometric shape of granule particles, and to ensure the bioavailability thereof both in the small intestine and in the large intestine. The disclosed granule particles have a core containing 5-aminosalicylic acid and a so-called spheronizing agent, preferably microcrystalline cellulose, and a coating of a semipermeable polymer, preferably ethylcellulose. In addition, the granule particles are intended to be essentially spherical and

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